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1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below

Dated: March 20, 2006 Signature:

Docket No.: 437252001200

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Georgina Matos)

In re Patent Application of:

Mark ALVIS et al.

Application No.: 10/082,443

Confirmation No.: 6302

Filed: February 22, 2002

Art Unit: 1654

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR

IMPROVED ARTICULAR SURGERY USING

COLLAGEN

Examiner: A. Mohamed

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Amendment is filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination, and is in response to the Final Office Action dated December 22, 2005 (Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20051205), for which a response is due on March 22, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.